

## REMEDATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR December 10, 2003

### 30 REQUESTS FOR EPA BROWNFIELD GRANTS

Fifteen Wisconsin communities ranging from villages to counties have requested letters of support for their federal brownfield grant applications. These communities requested a letter of support for a total of 30 applications that were due to EPA on December 4th. A letter of support from the state environmental authority is one of the requirements for applying for EPA's brownfield grants - each Wisconsin applicant received a letter of support signed by DNR Secretary Scott Hassett. Wisconsin communities requested support for 15 cleanup grants, 10 assessment grants and 5 revolving loan fund grants. Each assessment grant applicant could request \$200,000 or more, cleanup grant applicants also could request \$200,000, and revolving loan fund applicants could request \$1 million. EPA will announce the successful applicants in summer and finalize the grant agreements in the fall of 2004. EPA expects to announce another round of federal brownfield grant applications late in 2004, so communities who did not apply in 2003, or whose applications were not successful, may want to start planning for the next round. More information about the federal grants is available at [http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/financial/federal\\_brflids.html](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/financial/federal_brflids.html).

### WISCONSIN BROWNFIELD COALITION SUBMITS EPA GRANT APPLICATION

In addition to the 30 individual applications for EPA brownfield grants from Wisconsin communities, the Wisconsin Brownfield Coalition (WBC) was formed in order to request a \$4 million revolving loan fund for Wisconsin. The WBC was able to request more than \$1 million by forming a coalition of three state agencies and nine regional planning commissions. The WBC hopes that this new fund will establish one more option for funding brownfield cleanups and will supplement existing state and federal brownfield grant opportunities in Wisconsin. The WBC's application to EPA is on our web site at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/rbrownfields/index.htm>. With the 15-page limit on EPA grant applications, this application does not include implementation details. If the application is funded, the WBC will continue to involve interested parties and the public in implementation of the revolving loan fund. Please watch What's New on our main web page for updates on the WBC's grant application and for other Remediation and Redevelopment Program news.

### REMINDER - NEW SAG APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Our new Site Assessment Grant (SAG) applications are available on the web and are due on Feb. 13, 2004. The SAG program has \$3.4 million available over the next two years; \$1.7 million in each fiscal year. Small grants range from \$2,000 to \$30,000 and large grants range from \$30,001 to \$100,000. Local governments, including cities, villages, towns, counties, tribes, and redevelopment, community and housing authorities - are eligible to apply. A SAG can cover phase I and II environmental site assessments, site investigations, demolition and asbestos removal associated with demolition, and removal of abandoned containers and underground storage tanks. This funding has helped communities begin investigation and cleanup at 554 acres in 84 communities since 1998. SAG funded activities have included more than 210 site assessments and investigations, the removal of 162 underground storage tanks and the demolition of nearly 200 structures and buildings. For more information about the SAG program please see [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/news/on/2003/on20031118.htm#art5](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/news/on/2003/on20031118.htm#art5) and [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/rbrownfields/sag.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/rbrownfields/sag.htm).

### NEW FACT SHEET ON THE SMEAR ZONE

The RR Program has completed a new fact sheet titled "Smear Zone Contamination". The smear zone is the area where free product has been smeared into soils due to a fluctuating water table. This fact sheet confirms that the smear zone is defined as soil, regardless of whether the smear zone is above or below the water table at any given time. As a result, sites that are closed with contamination that exceeds soil standards in the smear zone will be added to the GIS Registry of Closed Remediation Sites. The fact sheet also notes that chapter NR 716 site investigation requirements apply to defining contamination in the smear zone and that new field work should

not be needed to define this type of contamination. The new fact sheet is available at [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR712.pdf](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR712.pdf)

#### REMEMBER INVESTIGATIVE WASTE DOCUMENTATION

Please remember to provide RR project managers with documentation regarding the disposal of investigative wastes such as drill cuttings and purge water from monitoring wells. This information may be included in site investigation reports or submitted with requests for case closure. If you have questions regarding proper disposal of investigative wastes or encounter an unusual circumstance, please contact the assigned project manager for assistance prior to disposal of the wastes.

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